

THE MESSENGER

“LIVE AS CHILDREN OF THE LIGHT”

April 11, 2018

NOT DESERVED, NOT EXEMPT...

You've heard about adventures in traveling?

I experienced them last week in flying to Dallas for a conference.

I flew out of Indianapolis when it was raining. I was there early to avoid any stress, and got to security okay. So I emptied my pockets, took off my shoes and belt, got scanned, then pulled aside... Something showed up - at my ankles? - it was my wet pants! So I gathered my things, and had to quickly drop them when I realized my pants were dropping! Eventually I got myself together, waited and then started to board the plane when I noticed my jacket was missing! So I had to go on without it.... After that, my first flight was uneventful. Then came the connecting flight - with mechanical problems - so we had to wait over 4 hours in Kansas City!

I and others made the best of it, finally got to board, and made it to Dallas just fine... then I discovered the rental cars were off-site. It was fine, and as I'm driving away, it dawns on me that I don't know how I'll ever find this place again?!? (Obviously, I did.)

Adventures... that I did not want, nor need. They were also...

Not Deserved.

I don't believe that God did that to me as a punishment. But we can also say that I'm...

No Exempt.

Being a “Christian” does not excuse us from problems in the world - things happen to all of us, including God's people. But I was also reminded that I was...

Not Alone.

God was there to help, to guide, to remind, to bless, to work in the “adventure.”

MCD

Women's Workshop

The Spring Women's Workshop will be held this Saturday, April 14, at 9:30 AM. Bring in the following items: Box Tops for Education, used postage stamps/cell phones and chargers/eye glasses & hearing aids, and pop tabs. We no longer accept Campbell's Soup Labels. However, we have been notified that we can collect **any old keys** you might have, so please bring in any of those you might have. And after this Saturday's workshop keep saving all of our above listed items for our Fall Workshop. All ladies are invited and needed to help us prepare the items for the different Schools & Organizations we distribute the items to.

Koinonia Basket Raffle

Koinonia Circle is sponsoring a basket raffle, with the profits to go to missions. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. There are 10 different baskets: “Mal's Creation Cards”, “Family Movie Night”, “Chicago Cubs”, “Pool Accessories”, “Dog”, “Cat”, “Your Personal Spa”, “Sit and Stitch”, “St. Louis Cardinals”, and “Wine, Cheese and Chocolate.” Tickets are available from a Koinonia member, the church office, or following both worship services Sunday, April 15. The drawing will be held April 19 at the Koinonia Circle's monthly meeting and then winners will be notified.

Men's Program & Banquet

The Men's Program & Banquet is Tuesday, April 17, beginning with the speaker, Eric Elliott, at 5:00 PM. His battle with a brain tumor is known to many by the popular film, “Hoovey,” which documents the family's struggle and their dependence on God. The banquet will follow at 6:00 PM. Tickets are \$8 for men, \$5 for boys 10 and under.

NOTE: We will be showing “Hoovey” (the movie about Eric Elliott) in the Fellowship Hall this Thursday, April 12, at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited and there is no charge.



Our sympathies are extended to Shirley Yeargin & family in the loss of Howard Yeargin this week. Services are Thursday.

Hospitalized: Lewis Thiel, Indy
Bill Chittick, Paris

Home from Hospital: James Brooks
Mary Lou Wright

Additional sympathies go to Susan King & family & friends of Tom King in his passing. No services are planned at this time.

Welcome to all those baptized on Easter Sunday: Hannah Waltz, Graham Templeton, Myli Tapscott, Jazzy Littlejohn, Bill Pierson!



-- All those who helped with the Holy Week Communion Service on Thursday;

-- Membership Committee for the Easter Breakfast;

-- Evie Gill & Pete Templeton for the 8:00 accompaniments;

-- Allen Englebright, Cathy Melendez, & Rev. Mike for the Children's Sermons;

-- Dwight & Cindy Robinson for helping with the baptisms;

-- Donna Garver & Worship Committee for the tote bag gifts;

-- Pastor John & Angel Templeton for taking you to "Believe."

BECOMING LIKE CHRIST

The LIGHT of the world
has no power failure.



APRIL PRAYER

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son - thank You, God." (John 3:16)

LENTEN PRAYER FOLLOW-UP

Over 500 people were prayed for during Lent this year. Don't forget to send a note to each person you prayed for and let them know you were the one praying for them! Thank you for your many prayers.

CANTATA WORSHIP

The Cantata was moved to Sunday, April 22, for one-combined service at 10:00 AM. Join us as we give "Glory to God." Rehearsals continue each Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. Note this change on the serving schedule; the 8:00 serving date has been readjusted. Thank you.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FCC Scholarship forms are due on April 15th, but will be accepted in the office on Monday, April 16 due to the 15th falling on Sunday. Forms and references are both due.

LUNCH with JOHN

In an effort to get to know more of the congregation, and so you can get to know me, we have started a sign-up sheet in the hallway called "Lunch with John" which will take place every Sunday after church. It's a win-win situation, we both get fed and blessed with each other's company! I am looking forward to it. If you have any questions, my cell phone is: 618/838-5646. - John Snidle

EASTER OFFERING

The year's Easter Offering goal is \$3,000 and we have received \$2,937.50 so far. Thank you!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- ★ Memorial Committee - April 12, 1:30 PM
- ★ Trustees Meeting - April 12, 5:30 PM

GIFTS FROM FCC

We still have Tote Bags left if you didn't get yours. They are free and are hanging on the coat racks in the back of the Sanctuary and beside the Sign up desk. Please pick up one.

RUSSIA TRIP

JC Foley will be leaving in 2 weeks for Russia to help with construction of a church building. We want to commission and pray for him and the work on Sunday, the 22nd. In addition, we provided money for tools to take, and he hopes to have them on display that Sunday. We'll be praying for JC and God's work!

HAM LOAVES

The men have distributed all the ordered ham loaves. If you didn't get a chance to order one, see Ken Hamilton for one of the extra loaves. There is 2 one lb. and 7 two lb. loaves for sale. The men had more orders this year than ever before. A big Thank you for your support!



CIRCLES IN APRIL

CIRCLE OF PRAYER: meets Thursday, April 12, at 6:00 PM at the home of Angel Templeton.
FELLOWSHIP CIRCLE: meets Tuesday, April 17 at 1:30 PM at the home of Mary Helen Hamilton. Dorothy Farnham will bring the lesson.
KOINONIA CIRCLE: meets Thursday, April 19, in the church kitchen at 9:00 AM. Mary K. Bradford will bring the lesson and Pam Lobb is the hostess.

BLESSING BOX DONATIONS

A basket is available at the door for you to turn in your Blessing Box donations. Thank you!

CIRCLE OF PRAYER

Please turn in your prayer requests by Thursday, April 12, so that the members of the Prayer Circle can pray for all of those in need.

COMMUNITY KITCHEN

Next Monday, April 16, will be our turn to provide the Community Kitchen at HRC. Sign-up to help serve or bring a dessert.

DISCIPLE'S MEN BREAKFAST

The Disciple's Men will meet on Saturday, April 21 at 8:00 AM in the church kitchen. Breakfast will be provided by Joe Gleckler & JC Foley; so please sign-up this Sunday to provide a number attending!

BUILDING UPDATE

The Nursery is being carpeted, to be followed by the stairs and hallway. The painting is almost finished and the baptistry will be repaired in a couple of weeks. We're close....

REPORT CHILDREN'S MOVIE

It was a fun week! We sponsored the movie, "All Dogs Go To Heaven" at the Paris Theatre and had 300 in attendance over the 3 days! We were able to give out door prizes to a lucky few and bags of puppy chow to all, as well as a paper with information. Our thanks go to our Evangelism Committee & volunteers, the Theatre, Brad's Florist, & the Prairie Press, as well as our schools for all their help, support, and advertising.



Youth Group Hey everybody, Wednesday night youth group is here! Jr High is from 6-7PM, and Sr High is from 6:30-8PM. Invite your friends!

* * *

Trip Update Believe was amazing. In attendance were 5 students and 2 adults, but more importantly everyone had a great time and had an unBELIEVEable experience (pun intended). We learned about God's will being "WITH" us through the Holy Spirit. None of the students had been to a Believe event before, or even a non-church-camp event! They really enjoyed themselves and already cannot wait for next year. They were given "Kingdom Worker" cards which challenge them to serve and spread Jesus somewhere of their choice, they chose school, so be sure to ask and encourage them about it!

* * *

Upcoming Trip For High School, we are planning to attend a concert for the band Rend Collective, one of my personal favorites; they are a praise and worship band in folk-rock style. The concert is April 22nd in Rock Island IL. This will be a one day trip, costing \$32 per student + 1 meal.

* * *

I will also be taking only a couple of students on a week of wilderness camp through Oil Belt Christian Service Camp at Current River in Missouri. We will spend a week in June canoeing and camping, spending time in God's creation!

* * *

God's Gang & Crossroads has a few more weeks and we'd appreciate your continued prayers!

* * *

MICE The next MICE group will meet on April 21st (that's a Saturday!) at 10 AM at Aikman's Wildlife Adventure. Any 2nd-5th graders are encouraged to come!

* * *

Summer Camp It's time to register for Camp Walter Scott; the deadline is April 20. Scholarship money is available for those who need it. FCC will pay for half of your camp experience! We think camp is important!

<u>CAMP NAME</u>	<u>GRADES</u>	<u>DATES</u>
CYF	9-12	June 10-16
Grandparents & Me	K-5	July 8-11
Beginners	K-2	July 11-14
Chi-Rho	6-8	July 15-21
JYF	3-5	July 22-28

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Rightnow Media For those of you who have/are using *Rightnow Media*, we want to know what you think. Do you like Rightnow? What are you watching? What are your favorite videos or series? You can leave us a message on our profile. Talk to us! I have talked to several people who thoroughly enjoy it and use it daily! This is wonderful, we're so glad people are using it. We still want to hear from more of you!

- John Snidle, FCC Youth Minister



THE MESSENGER

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

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Michael C. Dixon, Senior Minister ~ John Snidle, Youth & Family Minister

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Paris, Illinois

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U.S. POSTAGE

PAID



COME WORSHIP WITH US

EARLY WORSHIP 8:00 AM ~ SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:00 AM ~ WORSHIP 10:00 AM

MISSION STATEMENT First Christian Church's mission is to grow disciples who are:

"Believing in Christ,

Behaving as Christ,

Becoming like Christ"

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ATTENDANCE

We count because you count!

April 1: 8:00 - 58 10:00 - 213 Nursery - 10
TOTAL WORSHIP = 281 (Easter - No SS)

April 8: 8:00 - 46 10:00 - 110 Nursery - 4
TOTAL WORSHIP = 160

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Nursery - 0; PreK-1st - 4, 2nd-5th - 4, Jr & Sr High - 0, New Disciples - 12, Open Door - 21, New Horizons - 14
TOTAL SS = 55

SERVING SCHEDULE: April 15, 2018

8:00 AM: ELDER: Daryl Bridwell
DEACONESS: Pam Lobb
PIANIST: Mary Helen Hamilton

9:00 AM: Sunday School

10:00 AM: GREETERS:

East: Joel Gleckler

West: Pat Hittle

ACOLYTES: Ava Huddleson, Lily Smittkamp

WORSHIP LEADER: Kim Woods

BREAD ELDER: Steve Webb

DEACONESS: Megan Mathis

DEACONS: Team 2, Autumn Kasey, Captain; Jim Bellerud, Al & Nancy Englebright, Mark Johnson, JK Vilc, Patty Waters, Kevin Woods

JR DEACONS: Team #2, Lainey Ogle, Capt.; Aubrey Sanders, Alex Tapscott, Ben Young

CHILDREN'S SERMON: Pastor John Snidle

NURSERY ATTENDANT: Emily Thomas

NURSERY HELPER: Brooklyn Ward

CHILDREN'S CHURCH: Nancy Englebright

APRIL FRIENDSHIP VISITOR: Pat Hittle

APRIL USHERS: Steve Coombes, Dean Smittkamp, Ron Stickler

SOUND SYSTEM: Chris Milam

PROJECTION: Tony Peel

SCRIPTURES: Joshua 24:14-15; Matthew 6:24;
2 Corinthians 9:11-15

SERMON: "Involvement: Serving God?"

by Rev. Michael C. Dixon

OFFERING TOTALS

	Apr. 1	Apr. 8, 2018
General Fund	\$4,696.75	\$4,663.50
Sunday School	15.00	
Choices		50.00
Envelopes	1.00	
Emergency Fund		80.00
Food Pantry	205.00	50.00
Faith In Action	10.00	
MICE		10.00
Community Outreach	25.00	
Lunch On the Lawn		50.00
CWF Blessing Box	33.55	42.30
Youth Fund	200.00	
Bell Choir		50.00
God's Gang		20.00
Dis.Out-Missions	254.00	180.00
Wk. of Compassion	100.00	
Easter Offering	1,630.00	460.00
JC Foley Trip	100.00	90.00
Building Fund	1,074.00	205.00
TOTAL	\$8,344.30	\$5,950.80

How Have You Seen God This Week?

